

What is claimed is:

1. An air spring comprising:

an air spring cover;

a rolling-lobe flexible member attached to said air spring cover;

5       said air spring cover including an upper part and a lower part delimiting an extra volume of said air spring;

      said upper and lower parts conjointly defining an interface whereat said parts are joined to each other; and,

10       a pressure-tight and high-strength flanged seam formed at said interface.

2. The air spring of claim 1, further comprising a flange clamp at said interface.

3. The air spring of claim 1, wherein said flanged seam includes an annular depression; and, said air spring further comprises a sealing ring seated in said depression.

4. The air spring of claim 2, wherein one of said parts has a peripherally extending edge portion and said edge portion is folded over preparatory to being flanged over.

5. The air spring of claim 1, wherein said flanged seam has a circular form.

6. The air spring of claim 1, wherein said flanged seam has an elliptical form.

7. The air spring of claim 1, wherein said flanged seam has an uneven form.

8. The air spring of claim 1, wherein said upper and lower parts are made of respective materials different from each other.

9. The air spring of claim 2, wherein said flange clamp is a flat ring before being applied to said flanged seam.

10. The air spring of claim 2, wherein said flange clamp is preformed to have a cross section which is concave and to correspond to the form of said parts at said interface.

11. A method for connecting the upper and lower shell-like parts of a cover of an air spring, said upper and lower parts conjointly defining an interface, the method comprising the step of forming a flanged seam at said interface to fixedly and  
5 pressure-tight join said parts to each other.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein said first and second parts have respective edges which are joined to form said flanged seam; and, wherein the method comprises the further step of applying a clamp to said flanged seam with said clamp being made of a  
5 plastically deformable material.

13. The method of claim 11, the method comprising the further step of placing an elastomeric part in an annular depression at said interface in advance of forming said flanged seam.

14. The method of claim 11, wherein said flanged seam is

realized by an axial forming process.

15. The method of claim 11, wherein said flanged seam is a rolled flanged seam.

16. The method of claim 11, wherein said upper and lower parts are produced in separate manufacturing processes.

17. The method of claim 11, wherein said upper and lower parts are made of a material which is not plastically deformed.